

GACC Community Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2020

7:00 to 7:05 Virtual Meeting Welcome by Laura.

Daniel Gaffin update on Street Fair: officially cancelled in normal format, so idea of going back to our roots and celebrate in the neighborhood, or block, or family level. Ideas shared on what we can do to social distance with neighbors and be out and about in the neighborhood safely. A Scavenger Hunt is also on the website. We are trying to support vendors who are usually supportive of the Fair. We are encouraging everyone to support the vendors. T-Shirts are for sale on the website, but won't be available by the date of September 2020. If you have questions reach out to him on the website: <https://avenuesstreetfair.org>

7:06 to 7:45 Announcements.

Reports:

Jen Dailey Provost, District 24 Rep, shared a website: <https://jobs.utah.gov/housing/community/cib/cib.html>

A meeting tomorrow with the Community Impact Board (CIB) dealing with 20-25 Million dollars to the Oakland Port company from Kentucky that has declared bankruptcy.

Katherine Kennedy, School Board, appreciated Jen's support of the School Board and our public schools. Katherine is speaking from Boston, but she will also be attending a virtual meeting for West High later tonight. Good meeting last night with teachers focusing on remote learning options, and appreciate not having the split of both in school and virtual learning at the same time. They are watching safety with regards to Covid-19. Pleased with being remote at this time, but hope to go full time when possible. The school did run out of 14,000 electronic devices, soon to have 19,000, but will have 20,000 students. Most are asked to use the district devices, as they do not have distractions on them. So may try to buy more. Also, looking for adequate web access. Looking for ideas for the arts and how to get kids active in such electives remotely.

Jeremy, with LDS hospital, had two items, a lot asked about the Flu shot clinic, it will be a drive through clinic up in the clinic parking lot on 10th Avenue, October 14 6-8 p.m., It will be on Next Door, It is a free clinic in response to a question.

Also, he has been asked to fill a different role and will not be our contact, but Brandy Lee, who is on this call will be. He introduced her remotely.

Ava Lopez, has a link for openings for the City Board <https://slc.primegov.com/portal/newForm/1>

Reach out to Ava if you have questions.

SLC has invited tech industry to come back into SLC (and away from Utah county). Rose Park Connect trying to add access to wi-fi in the West Side and other areas as needed. Parks and Rec is developing a Reimagine Nature Master Plan and asking for community involvement, check out the link:

<https://www.slc.gov/blog/2020/08/26/salt-lake-city-asks-for-community-input-to-kick-off-development-of-new-public-lands-master-plan-reimagine-nature>

Public Lands division is having meetings to inform, but also learn of the needs from the public.

Black Lives Matter painting/mural is finished and is a beautiful addition to our community and is supported by our Police. Announcement of City Flag choice is coming soon. We are going to Yellow status on the Pandemic soon.

Homelessness issues discussed and info on when abatements take place and what are plans for the winter shelter. This is a huge priority for the City, working with the county and the state. They are specifically looking at Biowaste clean-up. Going to Yellow does allow groups of 50 or fewer, but no clear date on opening streets when we go to Green. The streets that were not popular in their areas were opened, but Fourth Avenue has been popular and remains closed to through traffic.

Another question about the Popperton Park trail development timeline. Ava did not have an update, but recommended someone from Parks come to talk about it. Popperton does have one new trail already in place.

7:32 to 7:50

Jill Van Langeveld, GACC past-Chair addressed Upcoming GACC Elections. We have the Chair-elect, Treasurer and Secretary positions are open. Chair-elect is a three year commitment one year as Elect, then Chair, then Past Chair. Treasurer takes care of all the money and goes by the by-laws. Michael Hughes has been our treasurer for several years. Secretary position is open and volunteers encouraged to consider running; Board members suggest an agenda for meetings and provide input from neighbors with concerns. For more information Laura provided a link for the map of the areas for representatives:

<https://slc-avenues.org/about-the-council/vision-bylaws>

Please email Jill or if you call make sure it goes through. We need a list of people for the October meeting, and no candidates added after that meeting. (?)

7:42 to 8:45 Laura introduced

Mayor Mendenhall, Updates from the City. Mayor was wearing Yellow as a coincidence for going Yellow for the City. She is aware of Zoning issues, but first she wants to update us. Chief Brown and Nick Norris, Director of Planning, may help with zoning questions. Covid issue discussed as SLC is hardest hit in the state, several communities on the West Side are disproportionately affected. Since July 13, the city has been tracking stabilization with established decline in cases, but recognizes our residents move from area to area within the city and from city to city. No big changes planned for now. Wearing Masks is the biggest issue and has helped in decreasing the rate. 90% of people are wearing masks to businesses. Please keep wearing your masks and social distancing, and avoiding large crowds. By Friday official shift to Yellow. If that trend reverses, she will ask to reverse the Color code back up.

Homelessness, Community Commitment Program, Summers we see more homeless people, but Pandemic has made this worse with the Homeless Centers at 97-100% capacity. Fewer beds overall, libraries are closed and most public buildings, so nowhere for people to go to escape the heat. Planning for the Winter, and for Police Reform, Homelessness is not so neat an issue to deal with at this time. Two phases, enhanced neighborhood clean-up 12 weeks. Bio-waste clean-up will be fully subsidized, May deploy more trash cans and public restrooms in some areas. Second Phase is a greater outreach for the people on the Street. like Project Connect, at the Convention Center to deal with issues like tickets and fines. (?) We will be going out to the camps to connect the Homeless with services and to deal with police issues, and hopefully connect with

housing. "Abatement" of the camps, is shutting them down. As encampments get large, it is harder to penetrate the camps. Smaller camps allow for city staff to develop relationships more easily.

Finally, Question of Phase two being a 12 week program. Chief Brown may know, who said Operation Diversion was a 6 week program, Operation Rio Grande was a 3 year program, and not sure about a short timeline as we will be dealing with Homelessness for a longer time. Question of whether homeless numbers have increased due to Covid, not sure. SLC is putting Millions into housing assistance, primarily as rental assistance. Some Momney is going to Rapid rehousing, trying to get people back into housing quickly. They are looking at Housing vulnerable populations. Mayor Mendenhall provided a link about the COVID-19 Winter Plan:

<https://www.slc.gov/mayor/covid-19>

Question about porta-potties being deployed, yes, some North of the ball park parking lot. We are tracking crime stats, and watching if some criminal element is attracted to these areas.

Laura had questions, a general status of damage from the earthquake and tying it in to redesigning the city for preparation. The aftershocks caused a lot of damage in the city and county building. The updates previously made have improved the results so the energy was dissipated off of the tower, although the building lost some plaster, which has been removed, but not patched and painted, City-County building still not re-opened. She is proud of the City response from all city departments. Some minor damage in older buildings, but it worked well over all.

Nick talked about equity first and response to the earthquake. Looking at how to make all city buildings safe and looking at the city as a broader safety issue.

Resiliency of private businesses being looked at to help. Transportation issues, they are trying to look at "15 minute neighborhoods" to reduce need for transportation. "Funding our Future" program is helping.

Mayor Mendenhall talked about the airport's damage and the old airport will be closing in two weeks, with the new airport having had no significant problem whatsoever.

Laura asked for additional questions in the Chat.

Laura asked about definition of "affordable Housing." Area Median income ("AMI") determined by HUD \$54,000 for individual and more for a family, with no more than 30% should be spent on housing, in SLC half of our residents are renters and half of them are housing compromised. Set county-wide.

ADU question about reportedly offered as affordable, but Mayor is a proponent and she knows the Avenues is generally not in favor. She has never posited them as affordable housing, but she said we know that ADUs may provide retirees with a way of caring for their property and staying abreast of increased costs. The ADUs will not be affordable unless the City comes up with a way to subsidize them.

Rezoning Issues in the Avenues, what is the 5 year development plan while protecting the neighborhoods from higher density development.

Nick said the developer on F Street is changing their plans due to the response from the community. Mayor said we do not know the density yet. But, she heard it was similar to a development already in the area.

Another question about the myriad of apartments going up and what part will be for lower income. She said we do not have an ordinance for inclusionary zoning, but will be looking into pushing the envelope in this area. The City may look at demanding some lower rent apartments, but along mass transportation routes. Question of whether that would include bus routes. We do not know yet what percentage of lower income housing City may

negotiate with financing to help development of affordable housing units. 450 new apartments have been built for lower income. A Housing loss mitigation ordinance is being looked at by the City. Nick added that City or Federal Tax dollars may go to some housing projects. We are seeing more micro-units being developed, but they are not tied to federal programs, Central 9th and another downtown area is being looked at for such. (?)

Question: Are the 6 story apartment developments funded by the city, Some yes, most not. Another question: If the majority in the Avenues opposes the development and rezoning, do we have any weight in the decision? She does not have input, but City Council has the decision.

How does the planning department balance environmental sustainability with human needs? The Planning department does try to balance those needs and factors, sometimes asking for more information. Often there is some conflict. Our planning commission does focus on balancing those issues, but looks at long term city planning.

Question about housing costs in the Avenues above 5th Avenue. The Mayor said she is not a realtor, so does not know.

Water conservation question. The city has Plans on improving Water conservation, Watershed Master Management Plan being developed right now. Public utilities have people focused on Water conservation and water consumption issues.

A New Water treatment plant recently developed due to federal guidelines to address a "water nutrient" question.

Shoelch Assemi had a question after thanking the Mayor for being here. She asked about the market rezoning at 2nd and D Street. allowing seating outside near her residence. How will the rulings be enforced? Nick responded and will keep her informed. Mayor said Compliance division will follow-up with complaints about non-compliance.

Questions from Katherine, Mayor wants to grow the youth programs available, "Youth City." (?) Interested in partnering with the schools to utilize their buildings for the Youth City program.

School Resource Officers at high schools and middle schools question about replacing them with Social Workers or nurses. Katherine was appreciative.

Question about police reform in SLC, Mayor announced 7 specific reforms regarding use of force, body cameras and disciplinary matters. There is a process they are using to address evolving concerns with Police issues. Then Chief Brown said they have been reviewing best practices around the country. He talked about the history of reform with certain notable actions nationally (Rodney King, O.J. Simpson) being the impetus for such changes.

Mayor welcomes our police officers to work with Chief Brown. We do not want reforms to put our officers in greater danger. We are looking at improving equity and safety for officers and for the public.

The Commission on Equity is full, with a youth advisory component. Are changes at the state level needed? Yes said the Mayor, especially with state training guidelines. Many officers in SLC are Crisis intervention Training Team certified. Jurisdictional boundaries are strange and convoluted, and we need consistency in enforcement. She said our Officers are dealing with many things that were not historically areas they were trained in before.

Pete Ashdown had a question about Federal Heights and the electronic signage on South Temple at the hospital. Also the teardown pending in Federal Heights, with looking at getting Federal Heights rezoned as a historic zone. Mayor said the commission did put a historic overlay on the Harvard Yale area. 30% of the residents must initiate the process, then an opinion vote, with 2/3 in favor, then a simple majority of the City Council can approve. Nick said the planning commission is already in touch with some of the neighbors. Regarding the Salt Lake Regional Hospital signs, the company came in for

permits, and the planner looked at the plans and simply missed that the property was a landmark site and in an historic area. Measures are in place to make sure that does not happen again. We have been working with the company and the Hospital to adjust brightness and dimming down 10% after 8 or 9 at night. It did lead to a full update of their planning maps.

Question about a 911 Medical call bringing a fire truck, and an ambulance, and sometimes a police officer, at a cost of \$1,800. Mayor applauded the response to heart attacks in our city.

Meeting adjourned a little late.